

ABSTRACT

This invention provides a process for the catalytic partial oxidation of a hydrocarbon feedstock by contacting a feed stream including a hydrocarbon feedstock and an oxygen-containing gas with a catalyst in a reaction zone maintained at conversion-promoting conditions effective to produce an effluent stream including carbon monoxide and hydrogen. The process of this invention is characterized by using an unsupported porous catalyst containing rhodium, such as rhodium foam.

09338070-041901